

HISTORICAL DATA

**An Adventure
in Genealogy**

Addressed to
THE YOUNGER GENERATION

By

EDGAR M. MUMFORD

SPECIAL EDITION
FOR THE FAMILY OF
Mr. and Mrs. MILO F. NICKERSON

In Memory of
MY MOTHER

APRIL 15th, 1927

AN ADVENTURE IN GENEALOGY

What would you think if your great-great-great-grandfather, when a young man twenty years old, had been captured by the Indians, and if what follows was a fairly accurate account of his experiences:

He was on guard with a gun while the workmen were plowing a field. They had discovered and killed a big rattle-snake and had hung it on a bush. He went to the bush to look at the snake to see whether its tail would continue to move (as he had heard it would do) until the sun had set. While thus interested in the snake, he was fired upon by Indians in ambush. He instantly returned the fire just as a ball from an Indian's gun passed through his hat and grazed his head. He fell; and when he arose an Indian had him in his grasp. As he grappled with this Indian another one hit him a heavy blow on the back of his head. He was now surrounded by the Indians who took him into the woods and lashed him to a tree. The Indians formed in line, and as each one passed him he would receive a heavy blow. One of them turned his head back and struck him until the blood flowed freely from his face and nose. He was then unbound and was told that this hard-fisted Indian was to be his master. For, they said, a shot from his gun had killed the master Indian's brother. They took him to Canada, and at last sold him to the hostile French. He was imprisoned for six months in Quebec, suffering much for want of food and clothing, and with the fever (which took the hair off his head except a lock behind each ear, and he never had any more hair while he lived.)

On the day before his capture by the Indians he had his head shaved, saying: "If the Indians catch me now, they will be bothered to get my scalp."

So it came about that he went into captivity hairless in the year 1746, and came out hairless on February 15, 1747, when he returned to his father's home in Westboro, Massachusetts.

Had not his life been spared, how could he have become your great-great-great-grandfather by virtue of his marriage two years later to HANNAH WOOD, of Somers, Connecticut?

The incident just related was an experience in the life of one of your ancestors, BENJAMIN TAINTER, whose pious father, Deacon (Lieutenant) SIMON TAINTER, of Westboro, Mass., was mentioned more than a hundred times in the journal kept by the Reverend Mr. Parkman.

BENJAMIN TAINTER and his wife HANNAH (WOOD) TAINTER were the parents of your great-great-grandfather, Dr. STEPHEN TAINTER, who served in the Revolution as drummer boy at the battle of Bennington, and was also at the taking of Burgoyne in 1777 and was married in 1791 to ELIZABETH GORHAM.

Now supposing, by going back along this line a little further, that your great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather had fallen overboard into the Atlantic Ocean when crossing over from England to this country, at a time when a fearful storm was raging, and the topsail halliards of the ship were trailing in the water, that when the storm swept him overboard into the sea he caught hold of one of the ropes that was trailing in the water, and, although he was drawn several fathoms under the surface, he was at last got on board and his life was saved so that afterwards he could become your great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather.

What would you think if it transpired that the ship he came over on was the MAYFLOWER, that he was one of ten principle men who with eight seamen were "sente out" to find a suitable place to land, that he landed at PLYMOUTH ROCK four or five days earlier than the MAYFLOWER cast anchor there, that he was the thirteenth of the forty-one who signed the memorable compact on board the MAYFLOWER, that he was elected an assistant in the government of the colony, served on committees with Governor Bradford and John Alden, that he was characterized by the Governor as a godly man, a useful instrument of good both in church and commonwealth, and that he outlived all the others who signed the compact, except John Alden?

The incidents just described were Experiences in the life of your great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather JOHN HOWLAND, who was born in the year 1592, in England.

The oldest daughter of JOHN HOWLAND was DESIRE HOWLAND, who was born after the landing of the PILGRIMS, and who was married to JOHN GORHAM about the year 1643.

The JOHN GORHAM who married DESIRE HOWLAND moved from Marshfield Barnstable, built mills tan vats, etc." — He was a joyner and made his coffin Barnstable, built mills, tan vats, etc." — "He was a joyner and made his coffin for himself years before he died, and used to keep apples in it as a chest, until he died and used it." (Quotation from the Gorham "Wast Book").

The oldest son of JOHN GORHAM and DESIRE (HOWLAND) GORHAM was JAMES GORHAM who was born April 28, 1650, and was married to HANNAH HUCKINS in February, 1674.

The sixth son of JAMES GORHAM and HANNAH, his wife, was EBENEZER GORHAM, born February 14, 1696.

EBENEZER GORHAM had a daughter HANNAH who was married to THOMAS GORHAM (probably a cousin).

THOMAS GORHAM and HANNAH his wife had for their sixth child ELIZABETH GORHAM who in 1791 was married to Dr. STEPHEN TAINTER who, as stated, had served in the Revolutionary War.

The oldest child of Dr. STEPHEN TAINTER and ELIZABETH (GORHAM) TAINTER was STEPHEN GORHAM TAINTER, born in 1792.

STEPHEN GORHAM TAINTER was married in 1813 to ANNA HURD, who was born in 1795. She was the daughter of Captain LEWIS HURD, a soldier of the Revolution who was severely wounded at the siege of YORKTOWN, and nearly lost his life there—another case in which the life of an ancestor was spared, who otherwise could not have become your great-great-grandfather.

Your great-grandmother, ANNA (HURD) TAINTER, lived to be nearly eighty years old, and died about 1873 or 4. She was my great grandmother, and I remember seeing her when I was a very small boy. She had an old-fashioned Spinning Wheel on which she used to spin wool into yarn, or into warp and wool for weaving "Home-Spun" cloth. She had a three-minute sand glass to tell the time by when she boiled her eggs. She understood nursing, and I have been told that she saved the lives of a good many children in her day. During her later years she lived with her daughter JULIA CATHERINE, at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, having moved to that state from Vermont in 1836. Her husband, STEPHEN GORHAM TAINTER, who was called by his middle name "GORHAM", ("GOR" for short), died in 1846.

Their first child, JULIA CATHERINE TAITER, when born at Sandgate, Vt., on August 7, 1814, weighed only two and a half pounds, and was so tiny and frail that she was not expected to live. When the father would go to the field to work his farm he would say as he went out the door near where the dinner horn was hanging, "If the baby dies, blow the horn."

But thanks to the good care the mother gave it (being a nurse) under the advice, we may presume, of the grandfather, Dr. STEPHEN TAITER, the baby did not die. It lived to be your grandmother. For it is recorded that on November 12, 1835, JULIA CATHERINE TAITER was married to WILLIAM STODDARD NICKERSON, son of SETH NICKERSON and LOIS (STODDARD) NICKERSON, of Sandgate, Vermont. WILLIAM STODDARD NICKERSON was born May 16, 1806 and died February 28, 1868. I have been told he was a thoroughly conscientious man, highly respected for his honesty and integrity. Otherwise I know little about him, except that he had a farm and a brick yard near Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin.

He and his wife, JULIA CATHERINE had for their fifth child, born December 17, 1843, JULIA ELVIRA NICKERSON — a woman whose memory I hold very dear (being like her father whom she always remembered with love and reverence). She was my Mother; she was married on August 24, 1862, to MANLEY ELDAD MUMFORD who became a brave soldier in the Civil War and marched "with Sherman to the Sea" He was in the following battles:

Atlanta, July 22, and August 23, 1864.

Eatonton and Sanderville, November, 1864.

Fort Harrison, December, 1864.

Savannah, December, 1864.

Averysborough, March 16, 1865.

Bentonville, March 19, 1865.

I also hold his memory very dear, for he was my Father. He died in April, and she on July 4, 1924.

Their children, all still living are:

EDGAR MANLEY MUMFORD, born Oct. 16, 1864, at Prairie du Chien, Wis.

HOMER LEWIS MUMFORD, born July 2, 1866, near Wauzeka, Wis.

VELMA LOIS MUMFORD, born Feb. 19, 1869, Prairie du Chien, Wis.

HENRY HORACE MILO MUMFORD, born Nov. 18, 1871, Wauzeka, Wis.

IDA MAY MUMFORD, born April 6, 1873, at Wauzeka, Wis.

EDITH PEARL MUMFORD, born Mar. 12, 1875, at Prairie du Chien, Wis.

HEBER JULIUS MUMFORD, born Nov. 26, 1878, on the homestead in Cloud county, Kansas.

My father was born January 2, 1841, in Illinois. He taught school several years in Wauzeka and in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and served one term as County Superintendent of Schools of Crawford County, Wis.

When my uncle, James Porter was elected sheriff of Crawford County, my father, through an arrangement with Uncle James, probably for political services rendered, served as Under Sheriff, and shared the income of the office of Sheriff with him on a 50-50 basis.

My father moved with his family to Cloud County, Kansas, in 1876, in two covered wagons, a team of large gray horses being hitched to one wagon, and a very large bay mule to the other. We farmed on the Cloud County homestead for seven or eight years, raising corn and hogs, cattle and sheep. We used to

make sorghum molasses by the barrel, one time the production amounting to nearly fifty gallons per day, from cane raised on the farm.

The famil moved to Tacoma, Washington, in 1889, having lived prior to that time in Concordia, and in Clay Center, Kansas, after leaving the farm.

My mother taught three terms of school of three months each, before her marriage, when she was at the age of 16, 17, and 18 years, respectively. When she was a young lady she used to sing, and knew from memory the words and music of more than a hundred popular songs of that day.

My great grandfather HENRY MUMFORD was born October 16, 1762, (just 102 years before the date of my birth), and he died July 28, 1839. His wife was SARAH (THOMPSON) MUMFORD, who was born August 6, 1772, and died July 30, 1839, two days after her husband had passed on.

They had eight children, of whom my grandfather, CHARLES NORRHOOD MUMFORD, their youngest child, was born near Fredonia, New York, on August 2, 1816, and was married on October 2, 1836 to CLARISSA BLACKNEY, who was born July 18, 1814. They were married at the residence of the bride's father at Lodi, Cattaraugus County, New York, by the pastor of the Presbyterian church. They moved west from New York State about 1839. There were nine children in their family, and my father was the second child.

My grandfather MUMFORD was a large man, six feet tall. He understood carpentering and knew something of mining. He was Sheriff at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, in early days. They lived for a while in Illinois, and I think in Iowa, and finally settled on a farm on Plum Creek, near Wauzeka, Wisconsin, where they lived for many years. He used to drive a yoke of white oxen named "Tom and Jerry". With these oxen he helped us move, one time, to Prairie du Chien, about 18 miles from his farm. He had several milch cows, kept bees, and had a Maple Sugar Camp on the Kickapoo River.

Grandmother MUMFORD was a small, energetic woman with black eyes, who lived to the age of 91 years. (As I remember it grandfather lived to be 87). Grandmother was a very neat house keeper, and a good cook. We always liked to eat the bread she baked, spread with the good butter she had made. Some of my earliest memories go back to the times when my brother HOMER and I would follow grandmother MUMFORD to her Milk house and watch her skim the milk. Then she would let us take a spoon and eat the "clabbered milk" out of the pans after she had taken off the cream.

One time when we were living on the old farm near grandfather's place, our house caught fire in the middle of the night. My mother was away visiting her parents, and had with her my sister VELMA who was then a baby. The old house was as dry as tinder, and burned rapidly. Fortunately for us children Father discovered the fire in time and got us out of bed. I remember:

We ran all the way over to grandfather's in our night clothes—forgetting our others—and finished our nights rest in grandmother's feather bed.

How soft and fluffy it was!

I was probably under six years of age at the time and recall only the most thrilling moments of the experience. One of them was when the bees got after us and made us dodge about in the cornfield to get rid of them, when father took us over to the ruins after the house had burned down. While the house was burning, the bees had been given a hot time, and they were now inclined to return the compliment with a vengeance. But the cornfield with its large green leaves hanging down between the

rows provided a means for our escape from their stings, by dodging beneath the shelter of the stalks and leaves.

Many more stories based on personal recollections could be told, but I pass them by at this time.

The clues to my father's earlier ancestry seem slow in developing. I suppose all the "Mumfords" are related in a way, and related, perhaps, to many of those who bear similar names. It is said that the original name was Mountfort, or, as it is variously written on old English tombstones and records: "Monkfort, Mountford, Momford, Munford and Numford", the origin of the name seems plain enough. Yet it seems there were two distinct "Montfort" families who came into England with the Normans; and this complicates matters for the genealogist; but it makes but little difference to us now, for we cannot trace back to either of them. None of the 300 Mumfords named in Dr. James Gregory Mumford's Memoirs connect up with our people in a way to show a family relationship.

You may wonder how I obtained so much data on my mother's side, and why I am writing it down.

I am writing it because I think it ought to be preserved; but the manner in which I traced it down is a story of patient research, extending over a considerable period of time.

Gathering genealogical data is about as intricate a process as is the work of a detective, or the hero of a detective story. My first clue to our earlier ancestry came from data that my mother gave me, going back as far as her great grandfather, Lewis Hurd, who, she said, was a Revolutionary soldier. This fact I verified — in due time — by referring to volume 2, page 358, of the Lineage Book of the Daughters of the American Revolution, where it is stated that:—

"Lewis Hurd entered the army in 1776 and was at the battle of Long Island; the taking of Fort Montgomery; at Valley Forge the winter of 1777-78; at the battle of Monmouth; and with Wayne at Stony Point. He was under La Fayette in Virginia. And in scaling one of the forts at Yorktown received a severe wound in the arm that nearly cost him his life."

Also the record names "Catherine Sandford" as the wife of "Capt. Lewis Hurd", which serves to identify Capt. Lewis Hurd as our ancestor because my mother had given me the name of "Catherine Sandford" as the wife of her great grandfather Lewis Hurd. Furthermore, I discovered through correspondence that my uncle MILO NICKERSON has a bible that was presented by LEWIS HURD to his daughter ANNA HURD. And my uncle Milo has written me an account of the sufferings endured by LEWIS HURD when wounded and ill at Yorktown, as related by his daughter, who was a REAL DAUGHTER of a HERO of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION — your great grandmother, ANNA (HURD) TAITER.

About two years ago I secured a copy of the Tainter Family History, a genealogy compiled by Dean W. Tainter and published in 1859. In this book the history of the Tainter family begins in 1613 and is traced on down to ANNA (HURD) TAITER, one of whose letters is published in it, and to my grandfather and grandmother NICKERSON, whose names are mentioned as living at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin in 1858. For confirmation of the Tainter History I turn to Vol. 14, page 182 of the "New England Register" and find it very favorably mentioned, in the following terms:—

"A History and Genealogy of the Descendents of Joseph Taynter who sailed from England in April, 1638, and settled at Watertown, Mass., pre-

pared by Dean W. Tainter, Member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society for Private Distribution — Mr. Tainter has been out-successful in collecting his materials and has shown good judgement in selecting and arranging them. Instead of being satisfied with names and dates, he has sought for documents and facts showing the condition and personal qualities of the individual members of the family. In so doing he has presented much that illustrates the character of past times as well as of the persons of whom he writes. The work in many respects is a model for family histories."

In checking up on the data my mother gave me, consisting of the names of more than a hundred of her near relatives, with many dates, locations and incidents which I wrote down as she dictated them to me from memory, and finding the data correct, as far as checked, in nearly every detail, it occurred to me that a woman who could keep track of these matters with all the other things she had in mind, a woman who could teach school at the age of sixteen years and could remember when a girl, the words and music of a hundred popular songs, "might have an ancestry that was really worth while." And I set out, like Sherlock Holmes, to find out more about her ancestors than I already had learned.

The Tainter genealogy identifies ELIZABETH GORHAM, who was married to Dr. STEPHEN TAINTER in 1791, as having been born at Barnstable, a small Massachusetts town not far from Cape Cod.

But Tainter does not give her ancestry.

In tracing her line back to the PILGRIM FATHERS, I have delved deep in the genealogical records in the State Library at this place (Pierre, South Dakota), beginning my search in 1926. Also the city librarian here is interested in genealogy and has helped me borrow books by mail from the city library of Chicago.

Among the many books written about the PILGRIMS and their descendants, I ran across one in which a part of the GORHAM family tree was quoted from the Gorham "Wast Book", a quaint manuscript that had been handed down through several generations and was finally printed in 1897. It was this that suggested to me — and the suggestion grew — that our ELIZABETH GORHAM, born at Barnstable, Mass., MIGHT be a direct descendent of the JOHN GORHAM and DESIRE (HOWLAND) GORHAM who settled there a hundred and some years earlier and helped to start the town. By searching the record of the First Settlers in Barnstable I traced them down about 100 years, but could not determine yet whether any of them were the ancestors of the ELIZABETH GORHAM who was married to Dr. TAINTER in 1791. I still had nothing to show who was the father, or the grandfather of ELIZABETH GORHAM.

At last in a borrowed volume entitled A Guide to Massachusetts Local History, on page 15, I found this notice:—

Oils, Amos, Genealogical Notes of Barnstable Families, being a reprint of the Amos Otis papers, originally published in the Barnstable Patriot. Revised by C. F. Swift, Barnstable, 1888-1890. (2 V in 1)

This publication was not available here. But it occurred to me it might be in the City Library of Boston, Mass. In reply to my letter the director of the Boston Library says:—

Page 444. Volume 1, of Otis, Barnstable, Families contains the following entry of the birth of Elizabeth Gorham.

Thomas Gorham, born Aug. 13, 1723, married Hannah Gorham, daughter of Ebenezer, May 16, 1754 — Their sixth child was Elizabeth, born June 10, 1761, married ('91), Tainter.

Upon receipt of this information I was delighted to find that I already had a record of EBENEZER GORHAM, who, as stated above, was ELIZABETH'S grandfather, and that I also had a record of THOMAS GORHAM, her father, who was a son of Ebenezer's brother, and cousin to Hannah. It need not be surprising that ELIZABETH GORHAM'S father and mother were cousins; it was not unusual in those days for cousins to intermarry. The point that concerns us here is the descent of ELIZABETH GORHAM; and the fact that her father and mother were cousins makes that point secure because her father and mother were BOTH descended from PILGRIM ancestry. So, the chain of evidence which I have built up link by link shows that the line of descent in our family traces back very clearly through the TAITNER and the GORHAM families to JOHN HOWLAND the PILGRIM FATHER, thus proving that STEPHEN GORHAM TAITNER and his brothers and sisters, that JULIA CATHERINE (TAINTER) NICKERSON and her brothers and sisters, that JULIA ELVIRA (NICKERSON) MUMFORD and her brothers and sisters, that EDGAR MANLEY MUMFORD and his brothers and sisters, and that the children and their descendants of ALL OF THESE are in truth MAYFLOWERS, (as the descendants of this illustrious line are called), and eligible to membership (those who are living) in MAYFLOWER societies. They are also, all of them SONS and DAUGHTERS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION, and eligible to membership in those organizations.

The story of the capture of BENJAMIN TAITNER by the Indians, and his escape, is related more fully in the TAITNER genealogy.

The story of JOHN HOWLAND falling overboard into the Atlantic Ocean is from Governor Bradford's History of the Plymouth Colony, and from the life of JOHN HOWLAND.

The Coffin story is from the Gorham "Wast Book". (It is so worded that it may refer either to JOHN GORHAM or to his father RALPH GORHAM. It makes but little difference to us, as both of them were our ancestors).

My mother told me about the baby that nearly died, but lived; and grew up to be her mother.

So all the information given here has definite sources, and, I think, reliable ones. The indications are that there is much more data yet to be gathered to make the story complete, and much more work to be done upon it to present it in better form. Inasmuch as my cherished ambition to publish a family history in book form may not be realized (largely because of the cost of publication), I have chosen to give here the sources of my information, fully, in order that others, if the need arises, may the more easily carry on the good work; and furthermore I have hoped thus to inspire confidence, and to make my story plain.

Returning now to the TAITNER genealogy, the BENJAMIN TAITNER who was captured by the Indians, as related on page 7, father's mother's father's father's father, which expresses the exact relationship. (To save repetition in such cases the initial letters merely of the important words may be used thus—"Imfff"—a system of my own invention which I employ later on).

From BENJAMIN TAINTER we trace back as follows:—His father, Deacon (Lieutenant) SIMON TAINTER (mentioned on page 7) was born February 28, 1693, and was married to REBECCA HARRINGTON May 28, 1714. She was the daughter of THOMAS HARRINGTON and his wife REBECCA (BEMIS) HARRINGTON, daughter of JOSEPH BEMIS. The father of THOMAS HARRINGTON (1665-1693) was ROBERT HARRINGTON (1616-1707), who was born in England and settled in Watertown, Mass., and was married October 1, 1649 to SUSANNA GEORGE (1632-1694). (Vol. 1, p. 343, History of Middlesex County, Massachusetts).

Deacon (Lieutenant) SIMON TAINTER'S father was SIMON TAINTER of Watertown, Mass., born July 30, 1660, and married to JOANNA STONE daughter of Deacon JOHN STONE. (Her ancestry is given separately, later on).

This SIMON TAINTER'S father was JOSEPH TAINTER, (spelled sometimes "Tayntor"), born in 1613, who was married to MARY GUY, born in 1619. She was the daughter of NICHOLAS GUY, a carpenter, with his (second) wife JANE GUY, and his twenty-five year old Carpenter's Helper, JOSEPH TAINTER, embarked for New England at Southampton, England, April 24, 1633, in "ye good shippe Confidence of 200 tonnes" NICHOLAS GUY was born in 1588.

It may be noticed that at least four of your ancestors already named — Nicholas Guy 1588, John Howland 1592, Joseph Tainter 1613, and Ralph Gorham 1579, were living in England during the life-time of William Shakespeare!

I have a picture of the old TAINTER house at Watertown, Mass., a copy of JOSEPH TAINTER'S will, and several pages concerning him; also considerable more than mere names and dates concerning members of that family and their descendants for a period of ten generations.

While I believe that our lives and our service to the world depend more upon what we, ourselves, are than upon what our ancestors may have been, it yet stands to reason that the pedigree of the human family has about as much to do with the individual as the pedigree of horses, or other animals, has to do with individual animals. Beyond doubt, genealogies contain something of historic and eugenic value. And any work of this kind undertaken in that wholesome spirit of pride and devotion which every one owes to his family is a worthy undertaking, and is, in fact, a work of love.

Had I known the story of my PILGRIM ancestors when a boy studying history at school, how much more interesting history would have been to me!

Not only does history become more interesting, but patriotic feeling and family pride seem to grow deeper and to become more genuine after we have learned that our grandfathers and grandmothers had a part — an honest-to-goodness part — in establishing the cities, molding the commonwealths and developing the country of our native land, thus making it easier for us to live in peace, security and happiness in this present generation.

It is wonderful, too, I think, when so many of our ancestors had narrow escapes from death, that the Good Lord preserved them, thereby enabling them to contribute their quota to what we are today.

For ready reference the following summary is given of your ancestors beginning with your father MILO F. NICKERSON and going back to JOSEPH TAINTER and his wife's father NICHOLAS GUY, and beginning again at ELIZABETH GORHAM and going back to the PILGRIM FATHER JOHN HOWLAND and his wife, who was also a PILGRIM MOTHER. The exact relationship to you, of those named here, is shown by the abbreviations, where "F" means father or father's and "M" means mother or mother's.

(Omit — JULIA ELVIRA (NICKERSON) MUMFORD, 1843-1924.)

F MILO FAYETTE NICKERSON, 1860 - ?

Ft WILLIAM STODDARD NICKERSON, 1806-1868

Fm CATHERINE (TAINTER) NICKERSON, 1814-1883

FH SETH NICKERSON

Fm LOIS (STODDARD) NICKERSON

Fmf STEPHEN GORHAM TAINTER, 1792-1847

Fmm ANNA (HURD) TAINTER, 1795-187?

Fmmf CAPT. LEWIS HURD, (Revolutionary Soldier)

Fmmm CATHERINE (SANFORD) HURD, his wife

Fmff Dr. STEPHEN TAINTER, 1760-1847, Drummer boy and Soldier in the Revolution.

Fmfm ELIZABETH (GORHAM) TAINTER, 1761-1801, of Pilgrim ancestry born in Barnstable, Mass.

Fmfff BENJAMIN TAINTER, 1725-1810, captured by the Indians; escaped in 1747.

Fmffm HANNAH (WOOD) TAINTER, of Somers, Conn., (m. 1749)

Fmffff Deacon (Lieut.) SIMON TAINTER, 1693-1714, of Westboro, mentioned many times in Rev. Parkman's journal.

Fmfffm REBECCA (HARRINGTON) TAINTER, 1690-1767.

Fmfffmf THOMAS HARRINGTON, 1665-1690.

Fmfffmm REBECCA (BEMIS) (WHITE) HARRINGTON, of Watertown, born 1684. (widow of John White).

Fmfffmfmf JOSEPH BEMIS 1619-1684. immigrant ancestor, born in England, settled in Watertown, Mass., a blacksmith as well as a farmer.

Fmfffmff ROBERT HARRINGTON, 1616-1707 immigrant ancestor, born in England—owned a grist mill in Watertown, Mass.

Fmfffmfm SUSANNA (GEORGE) HARRINGTON, 1632-1694.

Fmffff SIMON TAINTER, of Watertown. 1660-1738, Farmer

Fmfffmf JOANNA (STONE) TAINTER, daughter of Deacon John Stone of Watertown (m 1693), for her ancestry see page 10.

Fmfffff JOSEPH TAINTER, 1613-1690, immigrant ancestor, of our branch of the Tainter family in America, born in England.

Fmfffffm MARY (GUY) TAINTER, 1619-1705, born in England.

Fmfffffmf NICHOLAS GUY, 1588-1643, a carpenter from Upton-gray, Southamptonshire, England.

Fmfm ELIZABETH (GORHAM) TAINTER, born at Barnsdale, Mass., in 1761 (below is given her Pilgrim ancestry).

Fmfmf THOMAS GORHAM, born 1723.

Fmfmfm HANNAH (GORHAM) GORHAM, died 1765.

Fmfmfmf EBENEZER GORHAM, of Barnstable, born 1696.

Fmfmfmff JAMES GORHAM, of Barnstable, Mass., 1690-?

Fmfmfmfm HANNAH (HUCKINS) GORHAM, his wife.

Fmfmfmfff Captain JOHN GORHAM, 1617-1676, baptized at Benefield, Northamptonshire, England, Jan. 28, 1621.

Fmfmfmffm DESIRE (HOWLAND) GORHAM, 1624-1683, her parents were MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS.

Fmfmfmffff RALPH GORHAM, 15?, Father of John Gorham.

Fmfmfmfffff JAMES GORHAM, 15?, Father to Ralph.

Fmfmfmfmfmf JOHN HOWLAND, 1592-1672, Immigrant Ancestor and Pilgrim Father, passenger on the MAYFLOWER.

Finmmmmmm ELIZABETH (TILLEY) HOWLAND, Pilgrim Mother, a passenger on the MAYFLOWER.

NOTE:— Until the publication of Bradford's History, it had been supposed that John Howland married Governor Carver's daughter.

The manuscript of Governor William Bradford's History was "lost for nearly a hundred years, and was never published until it was discovered in 1855, in the library of the bishop of London's palace at Fulham, England. How it got there, no one knows, for it had been a part of the library of the Reverend Thomas Prince, Boston, and for years previous to 1776 had been kept in a room in a tower of the old South Meeting House in that city. In 1897 the manuscript was restored to Massachusetts by the British Government, and is now guarded at the State House on Beacon Hill" - Quotation from Vol. V., p. 146, *The Real America in Romance*, by Edwin Markham.

In his History Governor Bradford says that JOHN HOWLAND married ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN TILLEY. Even if this is not conclusive, as some suppose, it makes but little difference; for both ELIZABETH TILLY and Governor Carver's daughter (if the Governor had a daughter), were MAYFLOWER passengers, and JOHN HOWLAND himself was a MAYFLOWER passenger.

We will now trace further back the ancestry of JOANNA STONE, (daughter of Deacon JOHN STONE), who, as stated, was married in 1693 to SIMON TAINTER, son of JOSEPH TAYNTER—from data recently obtained.

In his last will and testament in 1689, JOSEPH TAYNTER says:

I doe appoint my loving friends Simon and John Stone of Watertown overseers of this my last Will and Testament, & do hereby give them power to determine any difference yt may arise between my Executor & ye Legates above said about ye premises aforesaid.

The JOHN STONE mentioned in the will, who also signed it as a witness, was undoubtedly the deacon JOHN STONE whose daughter JOANNA, as stated was married to SIMON, the son of JOSEPH TAYNTER, in 1693.

The History of Middlesex County, Mass., states in Vol. IV that Simon Stone and JOHN STONE were brothers, and were sons of SIMON STONE who emigrated to America on the ship "Increase", in April, 1635, and settled in Watertown, that he was a town officer and deacon there and died in 1665; that the immigrant SIMON STONE (and his brother Gregory who settled near Watertown) were sons of DAVID STONE and URSULA STONE, and grandsons of SIMON STONE and AGNES STONE all of England.

The record further states that:

"The earliest records relating to the ancestry of the two brothers (Gregory and Simon Stone) which later day research has been able to bring to light relate to SIMOND STONE and his wife ELIZABETH, who lived in Much Bromley, now known as Greater Bromley, a town in Essex County, England. The will of this ancestor, the first of which we have any definite knowledge was made May 12, 1506, probated in 1510 and is now in the British Museum. In it he names four sons as his heirs, of whom the eldest, DAVID, had a son SIMOND, whose wife's name was AGNES. Their son DAVID was the father of SIMON and GREGORY, the immigrants. These facts are compiled from data copied from parish registers in Great Bromley".

The same authority further states that SIMON STONE (our immigrant ancestor who was born in Great Bromley, England) was baptized in the year 1585; that he married JOAN or JOANNA CLARK, daughter of WILLIAM CLARK; that

their two eldest children were baptized in Great Bromley; that the father aged 50; mother aged 36; and five children came to America on the ship "Increase"; and that a pear tree planted by him (presumably at Watertown) bore fruit for 250 years, and was vigorous in 1889. He died in Watertown, Mass., in 1665. (Regarding the longevity of pear trees: a pear tree planted by Governor Endicott at Danvers, Mass., in 1630 is still preserved, or at least was in 1909--(The Real Romance in America, by Markham, Vol V. p 209, and on page 207 of the same volume is a picture of the grave of JOHN HOWLAND).

The fifth child of our immigrant ancestors (Deacon SIMON STONE and his wife JOANNA (CLARK) STONE, was Simon Stone, (also a deacon), born in 1634, and the sixth child of the same parents was JOHN STONE who, it appears, was also a deacon, born Aug 6 1635. It is recorded that Simon Stone and his brother JOHN STONE divided the real estate left by their father, Simon taking the old homestead.

This brings us to the ancestry of JOANNA (STONE) TAINTER, daughter of (deacon) JOHN STONE, as follows:

Fmffffm (Deacon) JOHN STONE, born 1635.

Fmffffm MARY (BASS) STONE, his wife

Fmffffm (Deacon) SIMON STONE, 1585-1665, born in England.

Fmffffm JOANA (CLARK) STONE, his wife, born 1597. " "

Fmffffm WILLIAM CLARK, 15??--born in England

Fmffffm DAVID STONE, 15?, father of SIMON, the immigrant.

Fmffffm URSULA STONE, 15?, his wife.

Fmffffm SIMOND STONE, 15?, grandfather of SIMON, the immigrant.

Fmffffm AGNES STONE, 15?, wife of Simond.

Fmffffm DAVID STONE, 1?, great grandfather of SIMON, the immigrant.

Fmffffm SIMOND STONE, our earliest known English ancestor; his will made in 1506 is in British Museum; great-great grandfather of SIMON STONE, our immigrant ancestor.

Fmffffm ELIZABETH STONE, 14?, his wife.

The name of my paternal ancestors, as far as I can trace them, are briefly stated as follows:—

Beginning with my father,

MANLEY ELDAD MUMFORD, born in Illinois, 1841-1924

CHARLES NORHOOD MUMFORD, born in New York, 1816-190?

CLARISSA (BLACKNEY) MUMFORD, born in New York, 1814-1906

HENRY MUMFORD, born in Connecticut, 1762-1839

SARAH (THOMPSON) MUMFORD, 1772-1839

It is my hope and purpose to trace this line back farther, and I shall appreciate information from any source looking to that end. There is possibly a line of descent, though it may never be discovered, extending to us from one of the early Montfort families who flourished prominently in England during the 13th and 14th centuries and were probably a considerable family at the time SIMOND STONE and his wife ELIZABETH were living at Great Bromley.

The venerable couple just named lived but a few miles northeast of London. They had four sons when father SIMOND'S will was made in 1506, and had died by 1510 when the will was probated. They may have been born as early as 1430, but not later than about 1480. It is certain they were living in 1492 when America was discovered by Columbus. They were probably living when printing was first introduced into England, in 1473. They were about as far removed from Chaucer, who died in 1400, as you are from Abraham Lincoln.

Imagine the kind of English they used!

Wouldn't a copy of that old will be interesting?

The war of the Roses was as fresh in their memories as the World War is in ours; and the cruelties practiced by the English in the one were on a par with those practiced by the Germans in the other. The burning at the stake of Joan of Arc by the English in 1471 was at least as stupidly barbarous and inexcusably cruel as was the execution in 1915 of the English nurse Miss Edith Cavell when a German firing squad deliberately shot her down. In both cases the instincts of the accusers of these martyred women was inhumanly wolfish. As a study in history let us for a moment compare the two:

"Do you believe" the judges asked the Maid of Orleans, "that you are in a state of grace?"

"If I am not" replied Joan of Arc, "God will put me in it. If I am, God will keep me in it.

Her capture, they argued, showed that God had forsaken her.

"Since it has pleased God that I should be taken," she said, "It is for the best."

For the purpose of her execution, says Green in his history:

"a great pile was raised in the market place of Rouen where her statue now stands. Even the brutal soldiers who snatched the hated witch (as they called her) from the hands of the clergy and hurried her to her doom were hushed as she reached the stake. One indeed passed to her a rough cross he had made from a stick he held, and she clasped it to her bosom.

'Oh! Rouen, Rouen,' she was heard to murmur, as her eyes ranged over the city from the lofty scaffold, 'I have great fear lest you suffer for my death'.

'Yes, my voices were of God' she suddenly cried as the last moment came, they have never deceived me.' Soon the flames reached her. The girl's head sank on her breast. There was one cry of 'Jesus' as she expired.

Even the hearts of the English soldiers were touched. 'We are lost', muttered one of the soldiers as the crowd broke up, 'we have burned a saint'."

And the historian adds that the English cause was irretrievably lost.

Absorbed in her work as the head of a nurses school, in 1914-15, Miss Edith Cavell never dreamed of running a recruiting office or a spy service. She wished to save men, first English, and then Allies, and she gave herself up entirely to this humanitarian and patriotic work. She had even rendered service to Germans. As a clue to the character of the man who judged her we read:—

"Soon the sentries came back and one of them called us to order with the manner of an angry dog. He stood in front of one of the men and swore at him as if he were going to spring at his throat".

Maitre Kirschen who spoke in the prisoner's behalf begged for clemency, praised her as a woman whose life had been devoted to the wounded. He recalled her work in the Balkan War.

It was at this point that the interpreter shouted at Miss Cavell: 'What do you say in your defense?'

And she answered: 'Nothing'.

The British chaplain who visited the prison just before her execution reported her last words were as follows:—

"I wish all my friends to know that I willingly give my life for my

country—But this I say, standing as I do in view of God and Eternity:—
I realize that patriotism is not enough:—I must have no hatred or bitterness toward any one."

She refused to have her eyes bandaged, but faced the rifles bravely. Did Germany gain by it? Recruiting is said to have jumped to ten thousand in England because of the news of her death. It helped formulate sentiment in the United States for our entry in the war.

Had I lived in England at the time the Maid of Orleans was burned at the stake I would probably have expressed my protest against such barbarity in a way that would have lost me my head.

But as it happened, I lived in the days of Edith Cavell, instead; and my protest might have cost me my job, had not an editor saved me. In 1915 President Wilson had declared our neutrality as a nation, and had urged the citizens of the United States to be neutral in thought, word and deed. But when the news of Miss Cavell's execution flashed over the land, the President's order could not restrain me. I referred to the subject in some verses that could hardly be called neutral; and I was saved from an open violation of the neutrality order by an editor's letter, which follows:—

THE OREGONIAN, Portland, Oregon, Nov. 8, 1915

Mr. E. M. Mumford,
Land Office, Vancouver, Wash.

Dear Sir:—

Your poem "The Law of the Wolves" is a little too forceful in its reference to warrant publication at a time when we are endeavoring to observe strict neutrality towards the European belligerents. That is the whole reason for returning it to you. It is a good poem.

Yours very truly,

Edgar B. Piper, Managing Editor

Accepting the editor's judgement as final, but yet not wholly dismayed, it occurred to me that if publication were had in England, the neutrality question might not be raised. So I sent the manuscript to Mr. Rudyard Kipling, stating that if it seemed to him that — — —

"publication of the verses in England would do any good, would tend to create sentiment against such atrocities being repeated, I hoped they would be published there — That my whole desire was to contribute some little expression corroborating what is generally felt here to be true, i.e. that the execution of Miss Cavell was an act of madness inspired by less than dog sense; and I hoped to suggest to the reader that this sentiment in some form is world-wide; and to express the conviction that this incident marks the turning point in the war.

About three weeks later I received from Mr. Kipling the following letter:—

BURNWASH
ETCHINGHAM

Private

Dear Sir:—

BATEMAN'S
BURNWASH
SUSSEX

20th December, 1915

I am in receipt of your letter of Nov. 29th with verses enclosed, on the death of the late Miss Cavell. Were I to cause them to be published in an English paper, I should be assisting in a breach of that neutrality which, I understand, the President of the United States has enforced upon its citizens. I, therefore, return your verses.

Yours faithfully,

E. M. Mumford, Esq.

RUDYARD KIPLING

After April, 1917 we were no longer neutral, but had joined the allies in the great World War; and for a considerable time after that the case of Miss Cavell was still the subject of comment in the leading magazines.

When an opportune time came for the release of my poem, the editor of the Oregonian had this to say about:—

THE LAW OF THE WOLVES

Poem had interesting history.

Trait of Rudyard Kipling Disclosed in letter to Author.

"The poem which follows is printed for several reasons. The chief one is that it is a good poem. Another is the reminder it contains of the sentiments entertained and suppressed with difficulty at the time by every right-minded person concerning the murder of Edith Cavell. Another is the information its history gives as to the conscientious regard even in minute particulars of a great Englishman for the interests and good faith of neutral countries.

Within a few days after the first publication of newspaper accounts of the execution of Miss Cavell, this poem was submitted to the Oregonian. It was returned to the author by the editor with the statement that he considered its publication inadvisable at a time when the President was trying to maintain neutrality.

The author then decided that it would be unwise to have the poem published in this country, but that if it were offered in England the neutrality question would not be raised. So he sent it to Rudyard Kipling.

In a short time he received the same kind of letter from Mr. Kipling that he had received from the editor of the Oregonian--reminding him that President Wilson was endeavoring to maintain this nation's neutrality.

The United States is no longer neutral, and the poem has been offered again to the Oregonian. In re-submitting it the author referring to Mr. Kipling's letter says:

'I kept still about it ever since, with some doubts, for a while, in my own mind, as to whether I was a real good American citizen or a half-rebellious one, to write such things.

'The recently published account of Miss Cavell's execution, as given to Mr. Hugh Gibson's diary, along with other atrocities committed by the Huns should cause the world to resolve to perpetuate the fair memory of this heroine as long as time shall endure, and should bring home to the world at this time the all-absorbing question which is sure to come soon. "What shall we do with the lawless Hun in the civilized world today?"--a question that could be answered easier and quicker, even though less creditably, were we a few degrees less civilized than we are.'

THE LAW OF THE WOLVES

(Suggested by the murder of Miss Edith Cavell)

Lupus, the Skenth, was a mad wolf king
Who lived when the world was young.
(He murdered by day, and he killed by night,
He showed his wolf pack how the wolf-devils fight --
The other wolves knew he didn't fight right).
So his death was the most satisfactory thing
That occurred when the world was young.

They clawed, and they gnawed, and they tore him in twain—
They knew he deserved it all.

He had set his own pack on a brave wolf nurse—
(The law of the wolves said nothing was worse)—
He riddled her body, and fell 'neath a curse,
So they clawed him and gnawed him and tore him in twain,
For they knew he deserved it all.

They clawed him and gnawed him and tore him in twain
And the pack that obeyed his will.
(There wasn't a one that could ever come back,
There wasn't one left of the mad king's pack)
They buried the bodies and covered the track
Where they clawed them and gnawed them and tore them in twain
In the manner that other wolves will.

Every dog in the land from Newfoundland to our
Remembers the law of his kind—
The Law of the Wolves—(when stated it saith
"A male dog may fight a male dog to death
But he shan't fight a female, or out goes his breath").
Every pup in the world from Newfoundland to our
Pays heed to the law of his kind.

The wolves have a law, but the Huns have none
In the world of the present day
(When they do what a dog or a wolf wouldn't do,
(When they lose sex sense and their hearts turn blue,
As they murder the women—the children, too)—
Say!—What shall be done with the lawless Hun
In the civilized world today?

Had our ancestor SIMOND STONE, with a protest in his heart and a prayer for such atrocities to cease, voiced similar sentiments regarding the execution of Joan of Arc by the English (and with slight alteration the language would apply in that case as well) he probably would have been beheaded. Though he may not have expressed himself in that way, we may guess that his leanings were those common to all right-minded men. At any rate let us devoutly hope that such cruelties may never be practiced again by any civilized people.

To make amends now for this digression, comparing the lives of these two noble women who stood at their death on the threshold of God, (as it may not hold a like interest for all), I will give another thought or two concerning our ancestors and draw a map to indicate where they came from.

Of the 49 ancestors named, 20 were born in England, most of them in the southern or southeastern part; and we know but little concerning their occupation. Of those who settled in this country, and those who were born here, a considerable number were farmers. There were among them 3 or 4 carpenters; 1 joiner; 1 blacksmith, 1 doctor, 1 nurse, 1 tanner, 1 contractor, 1 miller, 3 who bore the rank of captain, 3 who served their country in War, 1 was a sheriff, 6, at least, were deacons in the church, 2 were school teachers. Nearly all were of Puritan stock, especially the large contingent who settled in Massachusetts. Some settled in Connecticut. Others later in southwestern Vermont. They migrated westward to Illinois and to Wisconsin in 1836 to 1839. The Mumfords came from Wisconsin to Kansas in 1876, and to Washington State in 1889.

It is probable that descendants of our earlier ancestors have settled in every State in the Union. It is interesting at any rate to note that nearly a hundred postoffices and other geographical places bear names like those of our ancestors. It is logical to assume that our ancestors and their connections had a share in assigning a large number of the names given to the postoffices given below:

NAME of P.O.	STATE	NAME of P.O.	STATE
Bass	Ark.	Sanford	Ala.
	Ind.		Colo.
	Ky.		Fla.
	La.		Kans.
	W. Va.		Me.
Bemis	Me.		Mich.
	N. H.		Miss.
	Tenn.		N. C.
	W. Va.		Tenn.
Bemis Heights	N. Y.	Stoddard	Va.
George	Ark.		Ariz.
	Ia.		Nebr.
	Miss.		N. H.
	N. C.	Stone	Wis.
	Tex.		Idaho
(27 George Towns)		Tainter	Ky.
		Thompson	Ia.
Gorham	Colo.		Ala.
	Ill.		Ark.
	Kan.		Conn.
	Me.		Ia.
	N. H.		Mich.
	N. D.		Me.
Harrington	Del.		Nebr.
	Me.		N. D.
	N. J.		Ohio
	S. D.	Thompsonville	Pa.
	Wash.		Conn.
Guy	Ark.		Ill.
	Ky.		Mich.
	N. Mex	Thompson-Sta	N. Y.
	Tex.		Tex.
Hurd		Thompsons town	Tenn.
	N. D.		Pa.
Mumford		Thompson Falls	Mont.
	Mo.	Thompsonridge	N. Y.
		Thompsons	Tex.
	N. Y.		Utah
(4 Mumfords)	Tex.	Wood	N. C.
			Pa.
Nickerson			S. D.
	Kans.	Woodsboro	Va.
	Nebr.		Md.
	Minn.		Tex.